Moline, IL

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1
             IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 2
              FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS
 3
     IN RE PHARMACEUTICAL
 4
 5
     INDUSTRY AVERAGE WHOLESALE ) MDL No. 1456
     PRICE LITIGATION
                                 ) Civil Action: 01-CV-12257-PBS
 6
 7
     THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO
     ALL CLASS ACTIONS
 8
10
         Deposition of MIKE BEADERSTADT, taken before
11
12
     GREG S. WEILAND, CSR, RMR, CRR, Notary Public,
13
     pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure for
14
     the United States District Court pertaining to the
     taking of depositions, at Suite 300, 1630 Fifth
15
16
     Avenue, in the City of Moline, Illinois, commencing
17
     at 9:07 o'clock a.m., on the 17th day of September,
     2004.
18
19
20
21
22
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Moline, IL

	72
1	started insisting that they be sourced from that
2	supplier.
3	Q. So prior to 1999, doctors had the option
4	of utilizing that alternative to the buy-and-bill
5	methodology, and it was starting in 1999 that
6	John Deere required that?
7	A. Yes, approximately '99.
8	MR. HAAS: Okay. I have no further
9	questions.
10	MS. MacMENAMIN: I actually have some
11	follow-up questions for Mr. Beaderstadt. I didn't
12	know you were going to go straight there. And one
13	follow-up question for Carol, for Ms. Sidwell.
14	(Whereupon, an off-the-record
15	discussion was held.)
16	EXAMINATION
17	BY MS. MacMENAMIN:
18	Q. All right. Mr. Beaderstadt, can I ask you
19	generally, what is your understanding of the term
20	average wholesale price?
21	A. Generally my understanding is that it's a
22	benchmark that we use to price specific drugs in the

22

Q.

Moline, IL

73 physician's office and the pharmacies. 1 2 Do you understand it to have a relationship to any actual acquisition cost? 3 I don't believe it has any relationship 4 Α. that is a consistent relationship. 5 Are you aware of who establishes or sets 6 Q. AWP? 7 I don't know exactly how it's established. 8 I know that we get different numbers from a variety 9 10 of sources. In your time at John Deere, was it ever 11 Q. your responsibility or your role to negotiate 12 pharmacy reimbursement contracts? 13 Indirectly in my oversight of Carol's 14 Α. role. 15 Was it ever your role to negotiate rebates 16 Q. or discounts with drug manufacturers? 17 Once again, indirectly. 18 Α. Was it ever your role or responsibility to 19 20 negotiate contracts with PBMs? 21 Α. No.

In your oversight of the pharmacy and

Moline, IL

	76
1	ever doubted AWP as an accurate source for
2	reimbursement?
3	MR. HAAS: Objection to form.
4	THE WITNESS: We have never used AWP in
5	the pharmaceutical world as a source for
6	reimbursement. We have used it as a source to
7	calculate our reimbursement.
8	BY MS. MacMENAMIN:
9	Q. Correct. Have you ever doubted AWP as a
10	basis or benchmark for reimbursement in the pharmacy
11	world?
12	A. My perspective is that we always try to
13	get that price as low as possible that still puts
14	together a reasonable network, and we'd go to minus
15	25 percent and nobody would sign it and we'd try
16	minus 13 percent and everybody signed up, so we knew
17	we had to have it somewhere in between there. And
18	minus 20 is our latest venture there, and that has
19	produced some headaches for us, but we have been
20	able to put together a reasonable network based on
21	that.
22	So again, it's simply a basis for

22

Moline, IL

	77
1_	negotiation, and we try to do as well as we can to
2	lower our costs for acquiring those drugs.
3	Q. I want to skip to part of your testimony
4	regarding certain drugs called Remicaid, Lupron and
5	Synagis I believe it's called.
6	A. Yes.
7	Q. And at some point there was a change in
8	the reimbursement benchmark for these drugs.
9	Can you tell me, can you first of all just
10	describe for me that change and what went on?
11	A. Essentially, and again I'm recalling here
12	something that I wasn't directly involved in, but we
13	knew that we could acquire that drug. Those are
14	very expensive, high-cost drugs that are used in
15	very specific cases, very specific diseases. Most
16	of those patients who require those drugs are going
17	through our case management program, being medically
18	managed in some other fashion.
19	So rather than purchase those at prices
20	that we would pay under our physician contracts, we
21	made the decision that we wanted to source those

drugs exclusively from specialty pharmacy

INTERD CHARDS DISCRIPTOR COVER	1		
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS			
דאז הה. הוואהאא מהווח דמאד דאוהוומ מהאי			
LITIGATION MUL NO. 1456			
THE DOCUMENT DELATED TO.			
ALL CHASS ACTIONS MASIER FILE NO. UI-CV-IZZSI-FBS			
TN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARTZONA IN AND			
ROBERT J. SWANSTON, INDIVIDUALLY AND			
ON BEHALF OF HIMSELF AND ALL			
VERSUS NO. CV2002-004988			
TAP PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS,			
INC.; ET AL. DEFENDANTS			

DEPOSITION OF MICKEY BROWN			

APPEARANCES NOTED HEREIN			
APPEARANCES NOTED HEREIN TAKEN AT INSTANCE OF: DEFENDANTS			
TAKEN AT INSTANCE OF: DEFENDANTS DATE: MARCH 9th, 2005			
TAKEN AT INSTANCE OF: DEFENDANTS DATE: MARCH 9th, 2005 PLACE: BRUNINI, GRANTHAM, GROWER & HEWES			
TAKEN AT INSTANCE OF: DEFENDANTS DATE: MARCH 9th, 2005 PLACE: BRUNINI, GRANTHAM, GROWER & HEWES POST OFFICE DRAWER 119	į		
TAKEN AT INSTANCE OF: DEFENDANTS DATE: MARCH 9th, 2005 PLACE: BRUNINI, GRANTHAM, GROWER & HEWES POST OFFICE DRAWER 119 JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205-0119			
TAKEN AT INSTANCE OF: DEFENDANTS DATE: MARCH 9th, 2005 PLACE: BRUNINI, GRANTHAM, GROWER & HEWES POST OFFICE DRAWER 119			
TAKEN AT INSTANCE OF: DEFENDANTS DATE: MARCH 9th, 2005 PLACE: BRUNINI, GRANTHAM, GROWER & HEWES POST OFFICE DRAWER 119 JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205-0119			
	OTHERS SIMILARLY SITUATED PLAINTIFF VERSUS NO. CV2002-004988 TAP PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS, INC.; ET AL. DEFENDANTS ************************************		

- 1 actually change as needed throughout the course of
- 2 an individual year.
- Q Can the methodology be reduced to a --
- 4 to a formula?
- 5 A No.
- 6 Q How -- how is the -- what is the
- 7 methodology? Is it -- for example, is it linked to
- 8 AWP? Is it linked to some other benchmark or --
- 9 MS. FEGAN: Objection to form.
- 10 MR. ROBBEN: (Continuing.)
- 11 Q You can answer.
- 12 A Okay. Again, we use -- as I said in the
- 13 earlier part of the deposition, we use AWP as a
- 14 reference point. Reimbursement is established based
- 15 on -- based on our needs as a company to present
- 16 fair and reasonable reimbursement to the provider
- 17 community and fair and reasonable reimbursement to
- 18 Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Mississippi and our
- 19 subscribers.
- We do use AWP as a point of reference.
- We -- we reimburse for physician-administered
- 22 pharmaceuticals, in the physician's office using the

- 1 various HCPC codes assigned to the type of service
- 2 they provide. You know, a HCPC code, a J code, and
- 3 I believe a G code -- there's a few other types of
- 4 HCPC codes -- can have multiple drugs assigned to
- 5 that -- to that -- to that J code or other HCPC
- 6 code.
- 7 And -- and we will choose either -- we'll
- 8 choose the lesser of the lowest-priced brand using
- 9 AWP for the -- to determine that or the low -- or
- 10 the median generic, whichever is less. And then we
- _1 apply some -- either a markup or markdown, just
- 12 depending on our business need, to produce fair
- 13 reimbursement to the folks I mentioned earlier.
- So it's -- it's used in the calculation
- 15 as a point of reference, a starting point for us to
- 16 develop what we think is fair to the physician
- 17 community, to Blue Cross to our subscribers.
- 18 Q Okay. Let me -- let me back up a little
- 19 bit, because I think you said a lot of things there,
- 20 and I want to understand it correctly.
 - Now, am I correct that when you -- that
- 22 doctors submit their claims for drugs that they

```
41
     administer by J code?
 1
 2
                  Or other HCPC code. There are other
 3
     HCPC codes that --
             Q
                  That might take in --
            Α
                  That might take into account an
     injectable drug or a physician-administered drug.
 6
                 Okay. Now, when you get that claim in
            Q
     with that code, what's your next step?
 8
 9
            Α
                 We have a set allowance for that
10
     particular HCPC code. We apply that allowance to
     the claim, then apply the subscriber's benefits, and
.1
     we process the claim. Now, the -- the technical of
12
     how that flows, I'm not -- definitely not an expert
13
14
     in that area, but that's generally how it works.
15
                 Okay. How do you --
16
                 So we have an established allowance for
17
     that.
18
                 Okay. How do you establish that
            Q
19
     allowance amount?
20
                We take the -- using the J code and a
     crosswalk to the NDC number for all of the drugs
     that -- that tie to that J code, we take the median
22
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- generic or the lowest brand, whichever is less, and
- 2 then we apply either a markup or a markdown, just
- 3 depending on -- again, back to fair and reasonable
- 4 reimbursement and what's acceptable in our
- 5 marketplace.
- 6 Q Okay. Now, when you say you take the
- 7 lowest brand of the median generic, you're talking
- 8 about the lowest brand or median generic's AWP?
- 9 A Correct.
- 10 Q Now -- now, what's your source for the
- 1 AWP?
- 12 A I believe it's Red Book.
- 13 Q Okay. Now, when you're dealing with
- 14 generics, where do you find the median generic
- 15 price?
- 16 A Every -- every NDC number ties to a J
- 17 code in that range of drugs. So we take the average
- 18 wholesale price for all of those national drug code
- 19 numbers, and we determine the median internally.
- 20 Q So it's something you do in-house?
 - A Correct.
- 22 O Okav. So, for example, I know, just

- 1 answer that because I'm not faced with that
- 2 decision.
- I don't know how -- I don't know that the
- 4 practice happens or is prevalent or how that affects
- 5 what is fair and reasonable. All of those questions
- 6 would have to be answered before I think I could
- 7 answer the question that you've asked.
- 8 MR. MANGI: (Continuing.)
- 9 Q Do you know whether or not physicians
- 10 contract in any cases with manufacturers to get
- 11 rebates and discounts on drugs?
- 12 A I don't have any idea.
- 13 Q Now, I believe you agreed earlier that
- 14 acquisition costs for drugs could vary from
- 15 physician to physician, correct?
- 16 A I think what I said is that I didn't
- 17 know whether it did or didn't. My assumption would
- 18 be that it does. But I don't know whether it does
- 19 or doesn't.
- 20 Q Well, certainly, we can agree that the
- 21 AWP for any given drug bears no fixed relationship
- [22] to acquisition costs for that drug, correct?

- A As I've said before, I don't know where
- 2 average wholesale price comes from. So the relation
- 3 of average wholesale price to acquisition cost is
- 4 not something that I'm familiar with. So I don't
- 5 know that I can agree or disagree with your
- 6 statement.
- 7 Q Then it's certainly fair to say you have
- 8 no particular expectation that there will be a fixed
- 9 relationship between AWP and acquisition cost?
- MS. FEGAN: Objection to form.
- A Average wholesale price is a point of
- 12 reference that we use. It's relation to acquisition
- 13 cost, I'm not familiar with. So, I mean, I don't
- 14 have an expectation one way or the other on that.
- 15 MR. MANGI: (Continuing.)
- 16 Q Certainly, you don't have an expectation
- 17 that acquisition costs will be 20 percent less than
- 18 AWP, 40 percent, 80 percent. You just have no
- 19 expectation at all about that; is that a fair
- 20 statement?
- MS. FEGAN: Objection to form.
- 22 A I mean, I -- all I can -- all I can

- 1 answer to answer honestly is I have no understanding
- 2 of the relation between the two. And to speculate
- 3 on, you know, what is and what isn't the
- 4 relationship, I'm not comfortable doing.
- 5 MR. MANGI: (Continuing.)
- 6 Q So it's fair to say, then, certainly you
- 7 have no expectation of what the relationship is
- 8 either, correct?
- 9 A I think it's fair to say I don't know
- 10 what the relationship between the two is. And we
- 11 strictly use AWP as a point of reference, and that's
- 12 really all I feel comfortable responding to.
- Q On a separate note, you mentioned that
- 14 CMS fee schedules are used as a point of reference
- 15 in generating your fee schedules, correct?
- 16 A I said it is another source that we look
- 17 at just so that we have an understanding of what's
- 18 going on in the marketplace. It's not a point of
- 19 reference in the same sense that average wholesale
- 20 price is. Our -- our reimbursement is not based on
- 21 what Medicare's reimbursement is.
- 22 Q Do you -- does Blue Cross/Blue Shield of

Eric Cannon 30(b)(6)

Highly Confidential Salt Lake City, UT

September 13, 2004

1	IN THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS		
2			
3	-O- (***********************************		
4			
5	IN RE:		
6	PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY MDL No. 1456		
7	AVERAGE WHOLESALE PRICE : 01-CV-1225		
8	LITIGATION		
9	·		
10	30(b)(6) DEPOSITION OF: IHC HEALTH PLANS		
11			
12	ERIC CANNON		
13			
14	-0-		
15			
16	Place: IHC Health Plans		
17	4646 West Lake Park Blvd.		
18	Salt Lake City, Utah 84120		
19	Date: September 13, 2004		
20	9:40 a.m.		
21	Reporter: Vickie Larsen, CSR/RPR		
22	~O-		

Eric Cannon 30(b)(6)

Highly Confidential Salt Lake City, UT

September 13, 2004

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- 1 Medispan that include pricing information. We talk
- 2 with vendors about pricing changes, price increases.
- 3 We receive from manufacturers notification when prices
- 4 are raised.
- 5 We track closely the number of
- 6 manufacturers that may be selling a generic product
- 7 that would indicate price competition in a specific
- 8 category. We monitor communications that may take
- 9 place through newsletter groups or journal articles or
- 10 internet or wherever information -- wherever we can
- 11 find information, we'll take it.
- 12 Q. One of the things that you mentioned is
- 13 that you keep track of the number of companies selling
- 14 generic products?
- 15 A. Yes.
- Q. Why is the number of companies selling a
- 17 generic product important?
- 18 A. The number of companies selling a generic
- 19 product is important to us in that as the number of
- 20 companies selling a particular product increases, so
- 21 does competition. Generally speaking as price or as
- 22 competition increases within a category, the price

Eric Cannon 30(b)(6)

22

record.

Highly Confidential Salt Lake City, UT

September 13, 2004

36 then begins to drop. 1 2 Are you familiar with the term "AWP" or Q. "average wholesale price" in the context of 3 prescription drugs? 4 5 Yes, I am. And you mentioned that you subscribe to 6 Ο. First Data Bank and/or Medispan databases; is that 7 8 correct? 9 Α. Yes. 10 Q. Are AWPs published in those? 11 Α. Yes. 12 Q. Are AWPs for generic products also 13 published? 14 Α. Yes. 15 Q. In your experience does the AWP for a generic product tend to decrease when additional 16 sellers of generic products enter the market? 17 18 Α. No, it does not. 19 MR. EVERETT: Let's go off the record. 20 (There was a break taken.) 21 MR. EVERETT: Let's go back on the

Henderson Legal / Spherion (202) 220-4158

Jan L. Cook, M.D.

CONFIDENTIAL Boston, MA

March 6, 2006

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

MDL No. 1456

C.A. No. 01-CV-12257-PBS

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

IN RE: PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

AVERAGE WHOLESALE PRICE LITIGATION

*

THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO ALL ACTIONS

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

VOLUME I

DEPOSITION OF JAN L. COOK, M.D., a witness called on behalf of Johnson & Johnson, pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, before Jessica L. Williamson, Registered Merit Reporter, Certified Realtime Reporter and Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, at the Offices of Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi L.L.P., 800 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts, on Wednesday, March 6, 2006, commencing at 9:37 a.m.

Henderson Legal Services (202) 220-4158

Jan L. Cook, M.D.

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CONFIDENTIAL Boston, MA

March 6, 2006

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relationship between the price at which they acquire drugs and the amounts they reimburse, if any?

MR. COCO: Objection.

- A. I'm only aware of what our payment policy is. I'm not aware of what people in general are paying for their drugs.
- Q. So is the answer to my question that you have no understanding or expectation as to the relationship between the price that they pay to acquire drugs and the amount that they're reimbursed for drugs?

MR. COCO: Objection.

- A. Yeah.
- Q. Now, let me mark a document. This will be Exhibit Cook 002.

(Exhibit Cook 002, Document Batesnumbered BCBSMA-AWP-12489 - 12492, marked for identification.)

(Discussion off the record.)

Q. Now, there are a number of e-mails on this chain. I'll draw your attention to specific

Case 1:01-cv-12257-PBS Document 5145-2 Filed 03/17/08 Page 26 of 46

Dan Dragalin, M.D HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL - ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY September 17, 2004 New York, NY

			1
1	HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL - ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY		
2	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT		
	FOR THE DISTRICT (OF I	MASSACHUSETTS
3			
4		-x	
	In Re: PHARMACEUTICAL)	
5)	;
	INDUSTRY AVERAGE WHOLESALE)	MDL No. 1456
6)	
	PRICE LITIGATION)	CIVIL ACTION NO.
7)	01-CV-12257-PBS
)	
8)	
	THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO)	
9	ALL ACTIONS)	
		-x	
10			
11			
12			
13	30(b)(6) DEPOSITION OF	P DA	AN DRAGALIN, M.D.
14	New York, New	Yo	rk
15	Friday, September	1'	7, 2004
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17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			

Dan Dragalin, M.D HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL - ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY September 17, 2004 New York, NY

60

- 1 the actual drug, it would be more palatable.
- 2 Q. And did any payors, to your
- 3 knowledge, actually go in that direction?
- 4 A. Not through us. They might have
- 5 through their own primary networks, but not
- 6 through us.
- 7 Q. Did any payors say something along
- 8 the lines of yes, we understand that we're
- 9 providing a margin on a drug to compensate these
- 10 providers for their services?
- 11 A. Yeah, they all agreed to that. It's
- 12 the size of the margin that's the issue here.
- 13 Well, the size and the variability of the margin,
- 14 I should say.
- 15 Q. Is it fair to say that different
- 16 payors had different expectations of what those
- 17 margins should be?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. I would like to move on to a second
- 20 e-mail here, this one is on page 12, and it's the
- 21 second e-mail, actually, on the page from you to
- 22 a group of people beginning with Andrea Rowe, and

Kelly Ellston

Highly Confidential Washington, DC

November 23, 2004

	1		
1	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT		
2	FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS		
3			
4	In re: PHARMACEUTICAL :MDL DOCKET NO.		
5	INDUSTRY AVERAGE WHOLESALE :CIVIL ACTION		
6	PRICE LITIGATION :01CV12257-PBS		
7	x,		
8	Tuesday, November 23, 2004		
9	Washington, D.C.		
10			
11	HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL		
12			
13	Deposition of KELLY ELLSTON, commencing at		
14	9:59 a.m., held at the offices of Morgan, Lewis &		
15	Bockius, 1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington,		
16	D.C., before Keith Wilkerson, a notary public in and		
17	for the District of Columbia.		
18			
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Kelly Ellston

Highly Confidential Washington, DC

November 23, 2004

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- 1 A. That's correct, between the PPO and the
- 2 provider.
- 3 O. Now, based on the fact that Union Labor
- 4 Life does not know what physicians' acquisition costs
- 5 are, is it fair to say that Union Labor Life does not
- 6 know how much money physicians are or are not making
- 7 in relation to drugs they administer in office?
- 8 A. That's correct.
- 9 O. Union Labor Life does not know how much
- 10 of a loss they're taking or how much of a profit
- 11 they're making?
- 12 A. That's correct.
- 13 Q. And it would be fair to say that Union
- 14 Labor Life certainly does not have a particular
- 15 percentage expectation of the amount of profit that a
- 16 physician may be making. Correct?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. It would be impossible to say that Union
- 19 Labor Life expects that they'll make a percentage
- 20 profit of 5 percent, 10 percent, 20 percent, 30
- 21 percent, 40 percent?
- 22 A. That's not in our calculations.

Kelly Ellston

Highly Confidential Washington, DC

November 23, 2004

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- 1 Q. That's something that is entirely
- 2 irrelevant to Union Labor Life's calculations of the
- 3 amounts that it's going to reimburse. Is that
- 4 correct?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. Now, we spoke about instances where
- 7 billing is a percentage of charges.
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. I just want to be clear here. Do
- 10 physicians bill based on a fee schedule or on a
- 11 percentage of bill charges or either?
- 12 A. It could be either.
- Q. Do you have any knowledge as to how
- 14 physicians would arrive at the amounts billed when
- 15 they're not using a fee schedule?
- 16 A. Well, generally the physician doesn't
- 17 derive what they bill based on percentage of savings
- 18 or fee schedules. To my knowledge, the physician's
- 19 billing is completely up to how they decide to set
- 20 their prices. It's how they're reimbursed is the
- 21 percentage of savings or the fee schedule. Billing,
- 22 they can charge what they charge.

Robert C. Farias

Wellesley, MA

October 20, 2004

	1		
1	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT		
2	DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS		
3	NO. 01CV12257-PBS		
4			
5			
6	In re: PHARMACEUTICAL)		
7	INDUSTRY AVERAGE WHOLESALE)		
8	PRICE LITIGATION)		
)		
9	THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO:)		
	ALL ACTIONS)		
10)		
11			
12	DEPOSITION OF ROBERT C. FARIAS,		
13	called as a witness by and on behalf of the		
14	Defendants, pursuant to the applicable provisions		
15	of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, before P.		
16	Jodi Ohnemus, Notary Public, Certified Shorthand		
17	Reporter, Certified Realtime Reporter, and		
18	Registered Merit Reporter, within and for the		
19	Commonwealth of Massachusetts, at the offices of		
20	Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, 93 Worcester Road,		
21	Wellesley, Massachusetts, on Wednesday, 20 October,		
22	2004, commencing at 10:05 a.m.		
I			

Robert C. Farias

Wellesley, MA

October 20, 2004

1	_	
- 1	``	1

- 1 Q. So, if a physician were committing a crime
- 2 and billing for a drug that he had got as a free
- 3 sample, Harvard Pilgrim would still reimburse him,
- 4 but would hope that the authorities would catch up
- 5 with him, right?
- 6 A. I think that's safe to say.
- Q. And Harvard Pilgrim doesn't have any
- 8 knowledge about what providers' acquisition costs
- 9 are, right?
- 10 A. No.
- 11 Q. Doesn't require them to disclose those.
- 12 A. No.
- 13 Q. And if it learned that those were higher
- 14 or lower than it currently thinks they are, that
- 15 wouldn't change the fact that it reimburses that
- 16 methodology, which is 95 percent of AWP?
- 17 A. Correct.
- 18 Q. Indeed, if it learned that in a particular
- 19 instance physicians were getting a particular drug
- 20 at a -- were getting a rebate or a discount from a
- 21 manufacturer on a particular drug, that wouldn't
- 22 change the fact that Harvard Pilgrim's standard

Robert C. Farias

Wellesley, MA

October 20, 2004

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1 across the board methodology is 95 percent of AWP?
2 A. Correct.
3 MR. NALVEN: Objection.
4 MR. MANGI: That's it.
5 MR. NALVEN: I have nothing further.
6 THE WITNESS: Okay. Great.
7 (Whereupon the deposition ended at
8 12:52 p.m.)
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Hal Goldman, Pharm D., R.Ph. Confidential Sunrise, FL

September 20, 2004

		1	
1	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT		
	FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS		
2			
3 4	000 *****************************		
5	In re: PHARMACEUTICAL MDL DOCKET NO.		
	INDUSTRY AVERAGE WHOLESALE CIVIL ACTION		
6	PRICE LITIGATION 01CV12257-PBS		
7			
	THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO:		
8	ALL ACTIONS		
9			
10	x		
11	·		
12	CONFIDENTIAL TRANSCRIPT		
13	1340 Concord Terrace		
14	Third Floor		
15	Sunrise, Florida		
16	September 20, 2004		
17	9:20 a.m 1:05 p.m.		
18	DEPOSITION OF HAL GOLDMAN, PHARM D., R.Ph.		
19	Taken before LISA EDWARDS, Registered Merit		
20	Reporter and Notary Public for the State of Florida at		
21	Large, pursuant to Notice of Taking Deposition filed in		
22	the above cause.		
l }			

58

- 1 other?
- 2 A. The oncologist will get maybe a different fee
- 3 because theirs are maybe more high tech than a
- 4 rheumatologist who's doing an infustion for arthritis.
- 5 So there may be some differences based on the contract
- 6 language.
- 7 It may even vary in an oncologist's language if
- 8 it's a high-tech infusion versus a lower-tech infusion.
- 9 And those can get spelled out a whole host of ways
- 10 depending upon the type of product we have.
- 11 Q. Which factors does Vista consider in setting
- 12 the infusion fee that it pays to providers?
- 13 A. Based on the knowledge I have, it's based on
- 14 what we actually discussed. It's based on a physician's
- 15 practice location, do we need that physician in our
- 16 network, and how important is he to participate in our
- 17 drug replacement program based on our purchasing power
- 18 with volume.
- 19 Q. Does Vista ever consider whether it's necessary
- 20 to increase the amount of the infusion fee to keep a
- 21 doctor who may already be in the network from referring
- 22 people to hospitals to get injectable drugs?

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- 1 A. You always want to do things that are
- 2 office-based that can be done in an office. So I think
- 3 that would be a factor that might be considered. Here
- 4 again, it also depends on, do we have 20 doctors in that
- 5 geographic location that we could just decide to remove
- 6 the doctor from our panel and refer that line of
- 7 business somewhere else?
- 8 Q. Why is it that Vista wants to always, if
- 9 possible, do these sorts of services in the provider
- 10 offices?
- 11 A. There's probably a couple of reasons for that.
- 12 Number one, of course, there is a higher cost of doing
- 13 an infusion in an outpatient or hospital setting.
- 14 There's also a time for a member. Traditionally, with
- 15 infusions in a physician's office you don't have the
- long waiting period; so less time lost from work, less
- 17 time lost from family time.
- 18 The third thing is, putting somebody into an
- 19 infusion center or a hospital to get an infusion exposes
- them to a lot more germs than you do in a doctor's
- 21 office. So then you're increasing the risk of how
- 22 you're getting what we call an invasive procedure, which

Lisa M. Gorman

HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL Boston, MA

March 7, 2006

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

MDL No. 1456

C.A. No. 01-CV-12257-PBS

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IN RE: PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

AVERAGE WHOLESALE PRICE LITIGATION

THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO ALL ACTIONS

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VOLUME I

DEPOSITION OF LISA M. GORMAN, a witness called on behalf of Johnson & Johnson, pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, before Jessica L. Williamson, Registered Merit Reporter, Certified Realtime Reporter and Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, at the Offices of Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi L.L.P., 800 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts, on Tuesday, March 7, 2006, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

Henderson Legal Services (202) 220-4158

Lisa M. Gorman

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March 7, 2006

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Q. Okay. Now, e	earlier in t	he day you also
testified that you don'	t know as a	general matter
what exactly physicians	paid to ac	quire drugs,
right?		

- A. Yes. It's not part of my job responsibility.
- Q. Okay. So you do have an understanding here that different doctors may have paid different rates, but your testimony is that you don't know what the rates are that any doctors pay to acquire drugs?
 - A. That's true, yeah.
- Q. So you have no understanding or expectation, then, as to what the relationship is between doctors' acquisition prices for drugs and the amounts that they are reimbursed for drugs?

MR. COCO: Objection.

- A. I don't know, no.
- Q. So your answer is that you have no such understanding or expectation?
 - A. I don't, yeah.

MR. MANGI: Let's mark the next

Thomas E. Greenebaum

Highly Confidential Bloomfield, CT

January 14, 2005

DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS No. 01CV12257-PBS No. 01CV12257-PBS No. 01CV12257-PBS IN RE: PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY AVERAGE WHOLESALE PRICE LITIGATION .* DEPOSITION OF THOMAS E. GREENEBAUM, taken pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, at CIGNA Headquarters, 900 Cottage Grove Road, South Building, Bloomfield, CT, before Diana M. Noel, a Registered Professional Reporter, Certified Realtime Reporter, and Licensed Shorthand Reporter No. 199, in and for the State of Connecticut, on Friday, January 14, 2005, commencing at 9:40 AM.	 	1
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Thomas E. Greenebaum

Highly Confidential Bloomfield, CT

January 14, 2005

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1	what AWP is. We use it as an industry standard
2	benchmark that has been out there for years, and so
3	that's how we set up, how we sell and pay for services,
4	and we use, you know, our negotiating skills in terms
5	of what we buy from manufacturers. We do use WAC as a
6	relationship when we purchase from a wholesaler only.
7	Otherwise, I really don't deal with WAC at all.
8	(The Court Reporter marked the question.)
9	Q. I was also asking in addition to the question
10	about WAC, I was also asking about actual acquisition
11	costs.
12	Would the same statement that you just
13	made hold true for the actual acquisition cost, that
14	Cigna does not have an expectation of a relationship
15	between average wholesale price or actual acquisition
16	cost but, in fact, those are two separate pieces?
17	MR. ST. PHILLIP: Whose acquisition
18	cost?
19	MS. SCHOEN: Cigna's.
20	MR. NOTARGIACOMO: I'll object to the
21	question.
22	MR. ST. PHILLIP: Could you read it back

Thomas E. Greenebaum

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1	for me, please.
2	(The court reporter read back.)
3	MR. ST. PHILLIP: So if you
4	understand that, you can answer.
5	A. Yeah, I mean, I think that our acquisition
6	costs are separate from AWP, and we don't have any
7	expectations of what the relationship is between what
8	we purchase the drug for versus what AWP is.
9	MR. WADE: Let me pause for one second.
10	(Discussion off the record.)
11	Q. You explained to me earlier the methodology
12	that Cigna uses to reimburse pharmacies or historically
13	has used since 1991, which was a percentage off of AWP
14	plus a dispensing fee for branded drugs, and either a
15	percentage off of AWP or a MAC list price plus
16	dispensing fee for generic drugs.
17	Are there any other methodologies or
18	ways that Cigna has reimbursed pharmacies from 1991 to
19	the present for pharmaceutical products?
20	A. First of all, we don't reimburse. We pay.
21	We make payments to retail pharmacies. There were a
22	couple specific instances where we were providing a